IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: 10/660,883 Confirmation No.: 6937

Applicant(s): PINCHASIK, Gregory, et al. Group Art Unit: 3773

Filed: September 12, 2003 Examiner: BUI, Vy Q.

Customer No.: 75004

For: LONGITUDINALLY FLEXIBLE STENT

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the August 7, 2008, Non-Final¹

Office Action for the above-referenced application. This Response is being filed on or before January 7, 2008, a petition and fee for a two month extension of time is enclosed. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested in view of the following:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.

¹ It is noted that the Office Action originally had been made final by the Examiner; however, the Examiner agreed during a telephone interview dated December 3, 2008 that the currently pending claims had received a first rejection by this present Office Action and, as such, this action is properly "non-final." Applicant proceeds, therefore, under the assumption that the Office Action is non-final and that a Request for Continued Examination is not necessary at this time.